

Appl. N . 09/876,102

REMARKS

Claims 46-60 are cancelled. Claims 61-67 are added. Claims 61-67 are pending in the application.

Claims 46-60 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph as being indefinite. The examiner indicates that the meaning of the recited term "minimum photolithographic feature dimension" cannot be determined. Claims 46-60 stand further rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lee, U.S. Patent No. 5,684,316. Without admission as to the propriety of any of the Examiner's rejection, claims 46-60 are cancelled.

New claims 61-67 do not add "new matter" to the application since each is fully supported by the specification as originally filed. Claims 61-67 are supported by the specification at, for example, Fig. 22; page 6, line 11 through page 7, line 21; page 8, lines 3-9; page 9, lines 10-12; page 9, line 22 through page 10, line 4; page 10, lines 5-14; page 11, line 14 through page 12, line 5; and the claims as originally filed.

Claims 61-67 are allowable over the art of record for at least the reason that the prior art fails to disclose or suggest the recited stem width which is less than a feature width of an opening defined by photolithography utilized to form the opening.

Respectfully submitted,

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By: Jennifer J. Taylor
Jennifer J. Taylor, Ph.D.
Reg. No. 48,711